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Common School JOURNAL.

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Vol. VI. EDITOR, HENRY BARNARD, Supt of Common Schools, December,
No. XII. Published by BROCKETT & HUTCHINSON, Hartford, Conn. 1852.

EAST BERLIN LIBRARY.

THE friends of educational improvement in East Berlin School District, have done a noble work for their children and the district, and set a good example to other school districts in the State. After six years of persevering effort they have succeeded in changing the site of the school-house from a small, bleak, exposed situation, to a large, well shaded and central lot—in erecting in place, of a small, dilapidated and repulsive house, a spacious, well proportioned, convenient, healthy, and attractive edifice—in employing, instead of a succession of teachers from summer to winter, from male to female, of all degrees of disqualifications, and at a miserable pittance of wages, a thorough, gifted, and devoted teacher through the year at a salary on which a teacher can support himself and family—and to crown the whole, have procured a library of well selected books for the use of the school, and of the district generally. For these truly important results, more important to the district, and town and state, than all the revolutions which have swept over the old world in the last half century, or changes which have marked the political history of our own country in the mean time—the thanks of the present and all future gene-

rations of children in the district are due to a few enlightened, liberal and persevering men.

In the establishment of the library, it is but simple justice to mention the services of Mr. Charles F. Dowd, the excellent and successful teacher of the schools. He had long felt the necessity of a few books of reference and higher text-books than such as were in his classes, to enable him, and his pupils, to explain difficulties, solve doubts, and carry onward investigations, started in the regular recitations of the school. Stimulated and encouraged by learning from the Superintendent of Common Schools, what had been done in this department in the towns and districts of Rhode Island, he enlarged his views so as to embrace a library for general circulation among the young and old in the district. He accordingly began to talk the subject up, as he visited the parents of his pupils; and in due time called a meeting of the district to take the matter into consideration. The district voted their approbation of the object, but appropriated no funds in aid. Not discouraged, Mr. Dowd commenced a course of evening lessons to the young men of the district in Practical Mathematics, by which he realized \$27, which he generously set apart for the establishment of the library. In this juncture, the ladies of the district came to his aid and got up a "Fair," by which the sum of \$95 was raised. A subscription paper was then circulated, on which some member of nearly every family in the district entered a larger or smaller sum, and the aggregate amount of \$127, was thus added.

With this sum (\$249) at his disposal, and with the consent of the subscribers, Mr. Dowd proceeded to select a library for the district. In this work he was aided by the Superintendent of Common Schools, who collected in his office from various publishers books to more than twice the sum to be expended—thus affording an opportunity to examine the books, before their selection was decided on. On the 9th of August, a library of six hundred and twenty volumes was presented to the district in the name of the subscribers, on which occasion Mr. Dowd delivered an address—on the subject of education and the bearings of the library on the school, and especially on the work of self-education begun in the schools. The district has provided cases to receive the books, and adopted a set of By-Laws and Regulations for the use and preservation of the library.

BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE EAST BERLIN SCHOOL LIBRARY.

PREAMBLE.

A Library having been procured by individual effort and presented to the East Berlin School District, we the legal voters of said District, in a special meeting legally warned and duly organized, do agree to abide by the following By-laws and Regulations for the preservation and support of said Library.

BY-LAWS.

ART. 1. The Library shall be called the East Berlin School District Library.

ART. 2. The officers shall consist of a Librarian, who shall be Treasurer, and two Assistant Librarians, to be denominated first and second, and four Directors, who together with the Librarian shall constitute a Board of Directors.

ART. 3. The officers shall be chosen at each annual district meeting, according to the provision made by law for the appointment of other annual district officers.

ART. 4. The Librarian and Treasurer shall take charge of the library and its finances. He shall issue books, keep accounts, collect fines, and receive and pay out moneys under such regulations as the district may adopt, and at each annual district meeting, present a detailed report of the condition of the library and its finances.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to order the purchase of books, to transact, manage and regulate all affairs of the library not otherwise provided for by the district, and to fill any vacant office that may occur during the current year; and any officer thus chosen shall continue in office until the next annual district meeting.

REGULATIONS.

1. The Library shall be deposited in the East Berlin school-house.

2. The Librarian shall prepare and keep a catalogue of all the books in the library, arranged both according to their authors and their subjects, which shall be open at all reasonable times to the inspection of any member of the district.

3. Each volume shall be kept labeled with the name of the library upon the inside of the front cover, also with its number on the top of the back.

4. The Librarian shall keep the books arranged upon the shelves according to their numbers, and during the time of drawing no person shall be allowed to take books from the cases, except the Librarian and his Assistants.

5. The Library shall be opened by the Librarian for receiving and issuing books on Monday evening of each week, at such an hour and for such length of time as the Board of Directors may fix.

6. The Library shall be opened by the Assistant Librarian, at such times in the day and on such days in the week as the Board of Directors may assign ; at which times books shall be received on real date, but issued on date of Monday of the same week.

7. Whenever it shall be deemed impracticable by the Board of Directors to open the library on Monday evening, they shall have power to appoint some other evening in the same week : provided notice of the same be given in the school, when in session, and when not in session such other notice as the Board of Directors may order ; at which meeting books shall be received and issued on date of Monday evening.

8. Every person belonging to the district shall be entitled to the privileges of the library.

9. Any person not a member of the district but residing within one mile of the school-house and within the town of Berlin, who has or who may hereafter contribute one dollar to the library fund, may be entitled to the same privileges of the library as a member of the district, except that no school-books belonging to the library shall be used in any school out of the district.

10. The books shall be drawn on prepayment of one cent per week for each volume ; or by prepayment of twenty cents any person shall be entitled to the use of the library for thirteen weeks.

11. Books may be drawn for one, two or three weeks, but never for a greater length of time ; a single renewal, however, may be allowed.

12. No book shall be drawn from the library until it has been charged to the drawer, dated at the expiration of the time for which the loan money has been paid.

13. Should any book be retained beyond the time for which it was loaned, the individual to whom it stands charged shall pay one cent per day until it shall be returned.

14. Any person carrying a book from the library before it has been charged, shall pay a fine of twenty-five cents, and one cent per day until it shall be returned.

15. If any book shall be lost or damaged over and above its reasonable wear, the person to whom it stands charged shall make good the loss or damage, as the Board of Directors may decide.

16. Every person not clear from fines and damages shall forfeit the privileges of the library until the same are paid.

17. The Board of Directors may, from time to time, specify certain books which, on account of their especial value as books of reference, or as text-books for the school, may not be taken from the school-house, except by their especial order.

18. Not more than two volumes can stand charged to one person at one time.

19. The foregoing By-laws and Regulations may be altered and amended at any annual district meeting, by a majority of those present.

CATALOGUE
OF
BOOKS IN EAST BERLIN LIBRARY,
ARRANGED ACCORDING TO TITLE.

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Abyssinia and Nubia, History of.....	Russel 146
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" 2d Series, 15 vols.	301-315
Stone, Rev. T. D. P. Stories to teach me to think.	82
Stone, William L. Border Wars of American Revolution, 2 vols.	150,151
Stowe, Mrs. H. B. The May Flower.	408
Uncle Tom's Cabin.	216,217
Stuart, Harriet. Sunny Side.	81
Peep at Number Five.	116
Taylor, Miss Jane—Porter. Modern British Plutarch.	490
Sir Edward Seaward, Narrative of Shipwrecks and Discoveries } in the Caribbean Sea.	606
Thatcher, B. B. Indian Biography, 2 vols.	471,472
Traits of Indian Character, 2 vols.	473,474
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Thompson, James B. Higher Arithmetic.	553
Ticknor, Caleb. Philosophy of Living.	404
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Tyler, Patrick Frazer. Historical View of the Progress of Discovery in } North America.	107
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Whewell, William. Elements of Morality, 2 vols.	244,245
White, Gilbert. Natural History of Selborne.	89
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Wilson—and H. Murray. Adventures in Africa.	126
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C I R C U L A R.

*To the Acting School Visitor or Visitors, or to the Board of
Visitors in the several School Societies.*

YOUR coöperation is respectfully solicited in the following particulars :

1. The undersigned proposes to publish in a series of numbers, an account of the condition of the common schools in each school society in the state, so far as the same can be gathered from the annual reports of school visitors to this department for the last three years. If you have any reports which have not been forwarded, you will confer a favor, by forwarding the same immediately; and in case a report* was not submitted by the acting visitor or board of visitors for 1851, or 1852, you are respectfully requested to prepare and forward an account of your schools without delay. The publication will commence in January. One copy of each number will be sent to each board of visitors, and the undersigned will be glad to supply any number of copies for distribution in any society, at just one-half the cost of publication. In one instance arrangement has already been made to obtain a sufficient number of copies to supply every family in the society.

2. An arrangement has been made with the editors of most of the newspapers issued in this state, to publish a series of articles to be prepared from the official reports and communications of school visitors to this department, exhibiting the present condition and prospects of our common schools. You can materially aid in this enterprise, by communicating immediately to the undersigned in a brief and pointed manner, your views as to the present condition of the schools, and the best plans for improving the same—specifying in

* A single cross (X) in red ink on the envelope, or at the head of this circular, indicates that there is no report on file in this office for 1852; two marks (XX) indicate that no reports were received either for 1851 or 1852, and three marks, (XXX) that no reports were received for 1850, 1851 or 1852.

all cases whatever improvements have been made, or are now under discussion.

3. The undersigned is preparing for publication, an edition of the laws of the state relating to schools and the education of children—with such decisions as have been given by our higher court, or opinions expressed by this department on any controverted point.

A copy of the laws has been sent to each board of visitors, with figures in the margin indicating the provisions on which the undersigned proposes to append some remarks. If you have had doubts about the construction of these, or any other provisions, you are respectfully requested to communicate the same, with the conclusion to which you have come, and on which you now act.

4. You are requested to make in your official visits to the schools, memoranda of their present condition in the particulars specified in the accompanying blank, and to communicate the results to this department at the close of your official year.

HENRY BARNARD,

SUPERINTENDENT OF COMMON SCHOOLS.

HARTFORD, Dec. 21st, 1852.

RETURN respecting the Public Schools in District No.

for Term commencing

18 *and ending*

18

L—NAME, SIZE, POPULATION AND PECUNIARY RESOURCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Local or neighborhood name:

Territorial extent or size of district, length

breadth

Number of families residing in district

44	44	engaged in agriculture	trade or shop-keeping	mechanic shop
44	44	" factories or mills	navigation	
44	44	" clergymen	lawyers	physicians

Number of inhabitants of all ages **Do, between 5 and 15**

8 **Voters** **Do. tax-paying Voters**

Amount of State and Town money actually expended during the present year

" of valuation of taxable property, in the district,

money raised by tax during the present year, on property of district, to purchase or build school-house, site, &c.

to repair or furnish old house,

* to purchase maps, globes, and other apparatus,

" to purchase library,

for wages of teachers, for teacher

Aggregate amount of money raised by tax on the gross

Aggregate amount of money raised by tax on the property of the district, during the year, for all purposes,

Aggregate amount raised by race, or tuition-bim, for teacher's wages and board, fuel, and other purposes, during the year,

Amount given by individual for any purpose during the year,

Amount received from income of any land or fund, during the year,

Aggregate amount of money expended for all purposes for the school year, ending

II.—SCHOOL-HOUSE.

Place where the School is kept—in school-house,

in building built or used for other purposes,

Date when the school-house was built, first cost,

When last thoroughly repaired, and at what expense,

By whom now owned, by district	proprietors,
Furnished with a suitable play-ground	and out building
Material and condition of the building—material	condition, (good, ordinary, bad.)
Provided with scraper, mat, water-pail and cup,	sink, basin, and towel,
“ old broom, for feet, pegs, hooks, or shelves,	broom and dust-brush,
Number of school-rooms, and size of each, length, width, height,	
Arrangements for desks,	
“ seats,	
“ ventilation,	
“ warming,	
Provided with wood-shed, or shelter for fuel,	shovel and tongs, &c. thermometer,
Provided with bell, with globe,	with clock, hand-bell for teacher.
Do. with blackboard, the size, (if any.)	Do. with map of Connecticut,
Do. with outline maps,	Do. with geometrical solids.

III.—ATTENDANCE, LENGTH OF SCHOOL TERM.

No. of families who sent children to the School—belonging to District,	
Do. “ “ “ from out of the District,	
No. of scholars, of all ages, registered during term—belonging to District, boys, girls,	
Do. “ “ “ from out of the District, boys, girls,	
No. of scholars over 15 years of age, boys, girls, Do. under 5 years, boys, girls,	
Length of School-term in half days, weeks, months, (4 weeks.)	
No. of scholars who attended <i>three fourths</i> of the term and more, one half,	
Do. “ “ less than one half	less than one fourth,
Average daily attendance of the School during the term,	
No. of scholars belonging to the District who attended school in other districts, or towns,	
No. of children, over 4 and under 16 years of age, who attended no school, public or private, during the term.	

IV.—STUDIES AND CLASSES.

No. of scholars who commenced this term in Alphabet,	
Do. who attended during the whole term to Primer or Spelling-Book, exclusively,	
No. of scholars in Spelling, (not including scholars in Spelling-Book) exclusively, No. of classes in	
No. of scholars in Reading, (not including scholars in Spelling-Book,) No. of classes in,	
No. of scholars in Geography, No. of classes in, No. who draw maps,	
No. of scholars in Grammar,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in History of the United States,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in General History,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in Etymology, or analysis of language,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in Definitions,	No. of classes in,

No. of scholars in Mental Arithmetic,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in Written Arithmetic,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars attending to Penmanship,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in Book-Keeping,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in Algebra,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in Geometry,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in Natural Philosophy,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars in Physiology,	No. of classes in,
No. of scholars attending to Drawing,	Do. Composition,
Do. " Declamation,	Do. who engage in Vocal Music,
No. of scholars in other studies, specifying the same,	
No. of scholars <i>not</i> provided with all books necessary in the studies pursued by them	
Do. " <i>not</i> provided with a slate,	

V.—BOOKS.

Name of each kind of Text-Book used in the School, and the number of copies of each kind,

Dictionary,

Primer.

Spelling-Book.

Reading.

Penmanship and Book-Keeping.

Mental Arithmetic,

Written Arithmetic

Geography.

Gramma

History,

VI.—TEACHER.

Name and age of teacher,

Place (town and state,) of birth.

Do, do, do, residence,

Date of certificate, and by whom signed.

Number of terms, or years of experience as a teacher in any school.

Do you know any of the following words in this school before the present term?

Compensation per month, in money. Aggregate amount in money for term.

Is the teacher boarded by the District, in addition to his money wages?

Or, does he board himself out of his wages?

Arrangement for board—board round At one place,

If boarded by District, the amount paid, in money, for board,

VII.—SUPERVISION, OR VISITATION.

Number of visits from District Committee, From School Visitors,

Do. from Acting Visitor,

from Parents and others, (not school officers.)

VIII.—PRIVATE SCHOOLS, LYCEUMS, &c.

Number and grade of Private or Select School kept in the District during the term,

Number of pupils attending, Rate of Tuition per term,

Name of any Lyceum, Debating Society, or Library, with date of establishment, number of members, books, &c.

IX.—NAMES OF OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT.

District Committee,

Clerk,

Treasurer,

Collector,

